

CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

1. A hand-held wireless communication device which lacks a direct pointing device and which comprises:

a processor;

a display;

a pointing device capable of specifying directional inputs along only a single axis; and

a storage device having a browser stored therein, which when executed by the processor displays a mark-up language based screen on the display, the mark-up language based screen including

a body that is scrollable in response to user inputs from the pointing device, and

a static area located adjacent to the body, the static area including a control operable in response to user inputs, wherein the static area is non-scrollable so as to remain visible when the body is scrolled.

2. A hand-held wireless communication device as recited in claim 1, wherein the pointing device comprises a set of up/down directional keys.

3. A hand-held wireless communication device as recited in claim 1, wherein the user may move an indicator between the body and the static area by using the pointing device, the indicator for indicating an item shown on the display.

4. A hand-held wireless communication device as recited in claim 3, wherein the indicator automatically moves from the static area to the body in response to receiving a user input from the pointing device when a predetermined item in the static area is indicated by the indicator.

5. A hand-held wireless communication device as recited in claim 3, wherein the static area and the body each may include a plurality of items, and wherein the indicator automatically moves from the body to the static area if:

the indicator currently indicates a predetermined item in the body in proximity to the static area, and

a user input from the pointing device is received specifying movement of the indicator toward the static area, and

the body has already been scrolled away from the static area by a maximum amount.

6. A hand-held wireless communication device as recited in claim 1, wherein the static area is located along an edge of the display.

7. A hand-held wireless communication device as recited in claim 6, wherein the static area is a header of the screen.

8. A hand-held wireless communication device as recited in claim 6, wherein the static area is a footer of the screen.
9. A method of operating a mobile communication device which has a directional input device capable of specifying user inputs along only a single axis and which lacks a direct pointing device, the method comprising:
  - operating a browser in the mobile communication device to access hypermedia content via a wireless network;
  - displaying a mark-up language based screen on a display of the mobile communication device, the mark-up language based screen including a first portion and a second portion located adjacent to the first portion, the first portion including a control operable in response to user inputs;
  - scrolling the second portion of the screen beyond a visible area of the display in response to user inputs from said directional input device which is capable of specifying directional inputs along only the single axis; and
  - not scrolling the first portion of the screen while the second portion is being scrolled beyond the visible area of the display so as to maintain visibility of the first portion to a user while the second portion is scrolled.
10. A method as recited in claim 9, wherein the directional input device comprises a set of up/down directional keys.
11. A method as recited in claim 9, further comprising:

displaying on the display an indicator for indicating an item shown on the display; and

allowing the user to move the indicator between the first and second portions by using the directional input device.

12. A method as recited in claim 11, further comprising:

receiving a user input from the directional input device when a predetermined item in the first portion is indicated by the indicator ; and

moving the indicator from the first portion of the screen to the second portion of the screen in response to the user input.

13. A method as recited in claim 11, wherein the first portion of the screen and the second portion of the screen each include a set of displayed items, the method further comprising moving the indicator from the second portion to the first portion if:

the indicator currently indicates a predetermined item in the second portion in proximity to the first portion;

a user input from the directional input device is received specifying movement of the indicator toward the first portion; and

the second portion has already been scrolled away from the first portion by a maximum amount.

14. A method as recited in claim 9, wherein the first portion is located along an edge of the visible area of the display.

15. A method as recited in claim 14, wherein the first portion is a header of the screen.

16. A method as recited in claim 14, wherein the first portion is a footer of the screen.

17. A mobile communication device which lacks a direct pointing device and which comprises:

a directional input device capable of specifying user inputs along only a single axis;

a display;

means for accessing hypermedia content via a wireless network;

means for displaying a mark-up language based screen of said content on the display, the mark-up language based screen including a first portion and a second portion located adjacent to the first portion, the first portion including a control operable in response to user inputs;

means for scrolling the second portion of the screen beyond a visible area of the display in response to user inputs from the directional input device; and

means for not maintaining the first portion of the screen static while the second portion is being scrolled beyond the visible area of the display so as to maintain visibility of the first portion to a user while the second portion is scrolled.